the requirements of the social partners and in consonance with economic reforms. The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to await enactment of the amendments to this Act by the Parliament. Since the amendment proposals to the Trade Unions Act, 1926 are under consideration of the Parliament, the proposal of the Government of Andhra Pradesh could await the passage of the Bill and its enactment by the Parliament.

(c) Amendment proposals to the Acts referred to above are proposed by the State Government in the specific context of their own requirements and therefore the opinion of other State Governments in this regard is not sought.

Model ESI Hospitals in the States

3451. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish Model ESI Hospitals in all the States;

(b) if so, the target set up for this purpose; and

(c) the steps proposed to improve and upgrade the services of the existing ESI hospitals for better care to the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The ESI Corporation has decided in principle to upgrade one ESI Hospital as a Model Hospital in each State subject to State Government's consent.

(c) The ESIC has enhanced the ceiling on expenditure on medical care from Rs. 500- to Rs. 600/- per insured person per annum with effect from 1.4.1999. In order to bring improvements in the working of ESI hospitals/ dispensaries, the ESI Corporation has formulated an Action Plan and forwarded the same to the State Governments for implementation in consultation with the ESIC. The Action Plan includes *inter-alia* upgradation/modernisation of medical facilities in ESI hospitals by providing them equipments of ultra-sonography, pulse oximeter, autoanalyzer, semi-auto analyzer, cardiac monitor, dental unit, resuscitation equipments etc. Under ESI Scheme tie-up arrangement has also been made for super-speciality treatment with reputed medical institutions in the country. A revolving fund has also been set up by the ESIC with Regional Directors in the States so as to facilitate prompt re-imbursement of medical expenditure incurred by insured persons on super-speciality treatment.